

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BELFAS 00174 171636Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /069 W

-----180325Z 042408 /12

R 171531Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1683

INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 174

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, UK, EI

SUBJECT: LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

1. NORTHERN IRELAND'S ONE MILLION, THIRTY THOUSAND VOTERS
WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY MAY 18 TO EXPRESS POLITICAL PREFERENCES
FOR FIRST TIME SINCE CONVENTION ELECTIONS. OCCASION IS
PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION BALLOTING FOR 526 COUNCIL
SEATS IN 26 DISTRICT COUNCILS. THERE ARE ALMOST 1000
CANDIDATES FOR THESE UNPAID POSITIONS:

PARTY	CANDIDATES
-------	------------

-----	-----
-------	-------

OFFICIAL UNIONISTS	264 (PLUS 20
"SYMPATHETIC"	
INDEPENDENTS.)	

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR

PARTY (SDLP)	155
--------------	-----

ALLIANCE	148
----------	-----

DEMOCRATIC UNIONISTS	109
----------------------	-----

UNITED ULSTER UNIONIST PARTY (BAIRD)	33
--------------------------------------	----

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BELFAS 00174 171636Z

REPUBLICAN CLUBS	35
------------------	----

UNIONIST PARTY NORTHERN IRELAND	24
---------------------------------	----

VANGUARD UNIONISTS	22
--------------------	----

NORTHERN IRELAND LABOUR PARTY	12
-------------------------------	----

DOMINION PARTY	5
----------------	---

INDEPENDENTS, NATIONALISTS, HOUSING

ASSOCIATIONS ETC.	130 (APX)
-------------------	-----------

2. SOME PUNDITS DETECT VOTER APATHY AND PREDICT A LIGHT POLL. IT TRUE LOCAL COUNCILS' AUTHORITY LIMISTED TO "PARKS, EMPTYING THE BINS AND BURYING THE DEAD," BUT MOST PARTIES ARE TREATING ELECTION SERIOUSLY AS OPPORTUNITY TO BROADEN SUPPORT AND, IN CASE OF SOME UNIONISTS, STRENGTHEN BASE FOR POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN NEW "TOP TIER" OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IF "MOLYNEAUX PLAN" IS IMPLEMENTED BY HMG. NOT ALL PARTIES WANT BROADENED POWERS FOR LOCAL COUNCILS. SDLP IS PARTICULARLY WARY OF POSSIBLE RETURN SUCH ATTRIBUTIONS AS HOUSING BY AREA BOARDS TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

3. RESULTS ELECTION SHOULD BE INTERESTING FROM POINT OF VIEW ATTITUDES TOWARD PAISLEY'S DUP AND BAIRD'S UUUP IN WAKE LOYALIST STRIKE. RESULTS SHOULD ALSO BE INTERESTING GAUGE OF SDLP FORTUNES DURING DOLDRUMS. REPUBLICAN CLUBS, WHO HAVE TENDED CONCENTRATE ON LOCAL ISSUES, COULD ERODE SDLP REPRESENTATION.

SPICER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VOTING, DATA, LOCAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, ELECTION FORECASTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BELFAS00174
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770176-0085
Format: TEL
From: BELFAST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770551/aaaabrji.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8c3abe92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2497391
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
TAGS: PINT, UK, EI
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c3abe92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009